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ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA ALTOONA MSA BEAVER COUNTY PMSA ERIE MSA HARRISBURG-LEBANON-CARLISLE MSA JOHNSTOWN MSA LANCASTER MSA PHILADELPHIA PMSA PITTSBURGH PMSA READING MSA SCRANTON WILKES-BARRE MSA SHARON MSA STATE COLLEGE MSA WILLIAMSPORT MSA YORK MSA HUNTINGDON LMA INDIANA

YORK MSA
WILLIAMSPORT MSA
STATE COLLEGE MSA
SHARON MSA
SCRANTON -
WILKES-BARRE MSA
READING MSA
PITTSBURGH PMSA
PHILADELPHIA PMSA
LANCASTER MSA
JOHNSTOWN MSA
HARRISBURG
LEBANON CARLISLE
MSA ERIE MSA
BEAVER COUNTY
PMSA ALTOONA MSA
ALLENTOWN
BETHLEHEM MSA
BEDFORD LMA
BRADFORD LMA
BUTLER LMA
CHAMBERSBURG

PENNSYLVANIA'S

LABOR FORCE

.... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

Highlights

- Pennsylvania's March unemployment rate inched downward to 5.1 percent...a drop of 0.1 percentage point since February.
- Currently, unemployment stands at 293,000...off 7,000 since February.
- Employment among Commonwealth residents currently totals 5.4 million...fourth highest level on record.
- Lancaster's February (latest available) jobless rate of 3.5 percent is lowest among Pennsylvania's fifteen major areas. Beaver county's 9.4 percent rate is highest.
- February jobs, at a level of 4.9 million, are approximately 133,000 above the total of one year ago...services continue to dominate in job production.
- Manufacturing earnings at $414.12 in February...average workweek 40.8 hours...average hourly rate $10.15.

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MARCH 1988 DATA ISSUED: APRIL 1988

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Labor and Industry Office of Employment Security

Research and Statistics Division

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Pennsylvania's Labor Force ....A Monthly Statistical Analysis
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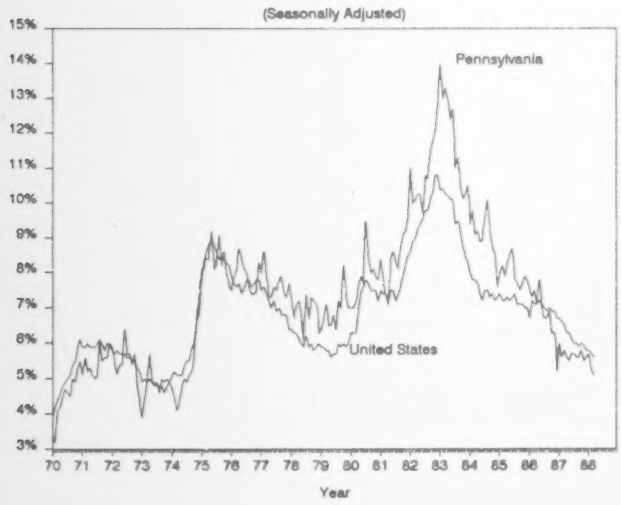
CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

SPRING STATISTICS MIXED, UNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWN WHILE EMPLOYMENT IS ALSO DOWN

Early spring statistics used to monitor Pennsylvania's economic health were mixed in March with resident unemployment down for the second consecutive month and a jobless rate at its lowest level in nearly fourteen years. This, however, is tempered by a somewhat significant retrenchment in the number of employed Commonwealth residents.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



Labor force data, made available through the Current Population Survey (CPS) of households, show March seasonally adjusted joblessness at 293,000, a drop of 7,000 since February. This most current figure represents the second time that the Commonwealth's joblessness has been below the 300,000 mark since October 1974 when 288,000 residents were out of work. During December 1986, statewide unemployment totaled an identical 288,000. The drop in joblessness, coupled with an uncharacteristic March decline in the civilian labor force, caused the adjusted rate of unemployment to fall by 0.1 percentage point to 5.1 percent. A review of historical data shows this to be the lowest rate since August 1974 when an identical 5.1 percent was achieved. Prior to this, June 1974's 5.0 percent rate was lowest.

Employment declined sharply in the seasonally adjusted statistics, off by 51,000 over the month to a level of 5,435,000. Despite the downturn, employment among Commonwealth residents remained a strong 192,000 above the total of one year ago and is now at the fourth highest level on record.

TABLE 1
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA
(All Persons in Thousands)

RESIDENT DATA	MAR. 1988	FEB. 1988	MAR. 1987	NET CHANGE FROM FEB. 1988	NET CHANGE FROM MAR. 1987
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,728	5,786	5,564	-58.0	164.0
Employment	5,435	5,486	5,243	-51.0	192.0
Unemployment	293	300	321	-7.0	-28.0
Rate of Unemployment(%)	5.1	5.2	5.8	-0.1	-0.7
UNADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,617	5,653	5,450	-36.0	167.0
Employment	5,304	5,319	5,110	-15.0	194.0
Unemployment	314	334	340	-20.0	-26.0
Rate of Unemployment(%)	5.6	5.9	6.2	-0.3	-0.6

UNEMPLOYMENT ..... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

TWENTY-TWO COUNTIES HAVE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES LOWER THAN THE COMMONWEALTH

During February, Pennsylvania's unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) fell to 5.9 percent of the civilian labor force. Among Pennsylvania counties, that rate was equaled by Allegheny and Bradford. Twenty-two of the Commonwealth's sixty-seven counties showed February jobless rates below the statewide average, while forty-three were above that mark. The volume of unemployment totaled above the 10,000 figure in seven counties, those of relatively larger population; while unemployment totaling below 500 was tallied in four, with Sullivan county achieving the low point of 100 (rounded) unemployed.

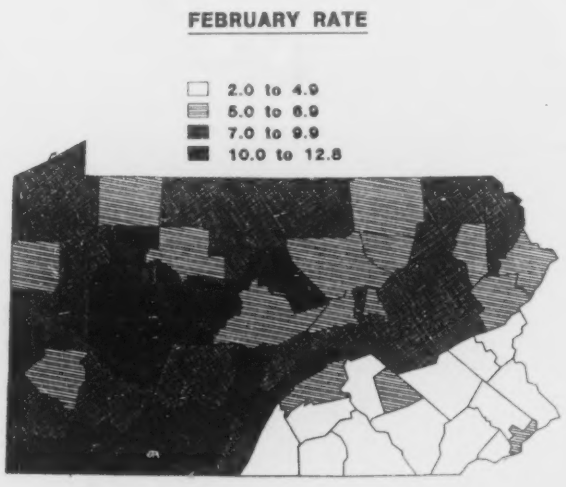


TABLE 2
PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES RANKED BY RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT
(not seasonally adjusted)
****

FEBRUARY - 1988

COUNTY	RANK	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME
Chester	1	3.1	5,700
Cumberland	2	3.2	3,300
Lancaster	3	3.5	7,500
Montgomery	3	3.5	13,300
Delaware	5	3.7	10,900
Bucks	6	4.0	11,500
Adams	7	4.2	1,600
Franklin	8	4.3	2,300
York	9	4.4	7,700
Berks	10	4.7	8,000
Dauphin	10	4.7	6,100
Northampton	12	4.8	5,300
Lehigh	13	4.9	7,100
Lebanon	14	5.1	3,100
Sullivan	14	5.1	100
Monroe	16	5.3	2,200
Union	16	5.3	800
Centre	18	5.4	3,300
Montour	18	5.4	400
Pike	20	5.6	500
Philadelphia	21	5.8	42,100
Warren	21	5.8	1,200
Allegheny	23	5.9	37,100
Bradford	23	5.9	1,700
Mercer	25	6.2	3,100
Elk	26	6.5	1,000
Lackawanna	26	6.5	6,900
Perry	26	6.5	1,300
Lycoming	29	6.8	4,100
Tioga	30	7.1	1,200
Columbia	31	7.2	2,200
Erie	32	7.4	9,400
Susquehanna	32	7.4	1,300
Cameron	34	7.5	200
Snyder	34	7.5	1,300
Luzerne	36	7.6	11,800
McKean	37	7.8	1,800
Northumberland	37	7.8	3,600
Potter	37	7.8	600
Schuylkill	37	7.8	5,500
Wayne	37	7.8	1,400
Butler	42	7.9	5,500
Venango	43	8.0	2,000
Blair	44	8.1	4,700
Mifflin	44	8.1	1,600
Carbon	46	8.2	2,000
Wyoming	46	8.2	1,100
Crawford	48	8.5	3,200
Cambria	49	8.7	5,400
Lawrence	49	8.7	3,700
Washington	51	8.9	8,000
Westmoreland	52	9.6	16,200
Fulton	53	9.8	600
Clinton	54	10.2	1,800
Clearfield	55	10.3	3,500
Bedford	56	10.4	2,200
Beaver	57	10.5	6,500
Jefferson	57	10.5	2,100
Somerset	59	10.8	3,400
Indiana	60	10.9	3,900
Clarion	61	11.1	1,900
Armstrong	62	11.4	3,200
Huntingdon	63	11.5	2,100
Fayette	64	12.6	7,400
Forest	64	12.6	200
Greene	64	12.6	1,700
Juniata	67	12.7	1,200

PENNSYLVANIA'S LABOR MARKET AREAS

TABLE 3

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME AND RATE BY MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA IN PENNSYLVANIA
(Seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

	FEBRUARY 1988 P/		JANUARY 1988		FEBRUARY 1987	
	UNEMP. NUMBER	UNEMP RATE %	UNEMP. NUMBER	UNEMP. RATE %	UNEMP. NUMBER	UNEMP. RATE %
UNITED STATES	6,938.0	5.7	7,046.0	5.8	7,886.0	6.6
PENNSYLVANIA	300.0	5.2	330.0	5.7	311.0	5.6
LABOR MARKET AREA						
ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA	15.2	4.7	17.3	5.3	16.6	5.3
ALTOONA MSA	4.1	6.8	4.4	7.2	4.1	7.1
BEAVER COUNTY MSA	5.9	9.4	5.9	9.4	5.9	9.4
ERIE MSA	8.6	6.6	8.9	6.8	9.4	7.5
HARRISBURG-LEB.-CARLISLE MSA	12.4	3.9	12.7	4.0	11.2	3.7
JOHNSTOWN MSA	7.2	7.6	7.9	8.2	7.4	8.0
LANCASTER MSA	7.5	3.5	8.5	3.9	7.2	3.5
PHILADELPHIA PMSA	101.5	4.2	108.1	4.4	105.5	4.5
PITTSBURGH PMSA	60.4	6.2	63.0	6.5	65.1	6.9
READING MSA	7.7	4.4	8.6	4.9	8.4	5.0
SCRANTON--WILKES-BARRE MSA	22.1	6.2	23.7	6.6	24.7	7.2
SHARON MSA	2.5	5.0	2.6	5.2	3.6	7.6
STATE COLLEGE MSA	3.1	5.0	3.4	5.5	3.0	5.1
WILLIAMSPORT MSA	3.5	5.7	3.8	6.1	3.0	5.4
YORK MSA	9.0	4.1	9.7	4.5	9.1	4.4

P/ Data are preliminary.

LANCASTER'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF 3.5 PERCENT RANKS BEST IN PENNSYLVANIA

A comparison of unemployment volumes and rates among the Commonwealth's fifteen major labor market areas is presented above. Seasonally adjusted data for February 1988 (latest available) reveals Beaver County's jobless rate of 9.4 percent to be the high point among all areas. This figure displays remarkable stability in both the month-ago and year-ago statistics, pointing up the fact that unemployment in this area is a chronic problem. Lancaster's 3.5 percent rate occupies the low end of the scale and, like Beaver County, displays a similar rate in the year-ago figures. Over-the-year only two areas, Williamsport and Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle, experienced rising unemployment rates, while eleven areas declined. The largest drop in jobless rate came in the Sharon MSA, where an 1,100 decline in joblessness caused the rate to plummet from February 1987's 7.6 percent to February 1988's most current 5.0 percent.

TABLE 4
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	MAR 1988 AP/	FEB 1988 P/	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	NET CHANGE TO FEB 1988 FROM: JAN 1988	FEB 1987
NONAG WAGE AND SALARY	4,946.7	4,908.6	4,908.3	4,775.8	0.3	132.8
---MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	1,045.9	1,044.1	1,046.4	1,025.2	-2.3	18.9
DURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	597.1	594.3	596.3	577.7	-2.0	16.6
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCT		29.6	29.8	27.0	-0.2	2.6
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES		21.8	22.2	21.2	-0.4	0.6
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS		46.2	46.5	44.9	-0.3	1.3
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES		89.9	90.5	82.5	-0.6	7.4
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS		92.7	92.6	89.9	0.1	2.8
MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELECTRICAL		106.7	106.7	101.2	0.0	5.5
ELECTRIC & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		91.9	92.3	94.9	-0.4	-3.0
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT		60.5	60.9	60.9	-0.4	-0.4
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PRODUCTS		34.3	34.3	34.7	0.0	-0.4
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES		20.7	20.5	20.5	0.2	0.2
NONDURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	448.8	449.8	450.1	447.5	-0.3	2.3
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS		90.9	91.4	89.6	-0.5	1.3
TOBACCO MANUFACTURES		1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS		30.9	30.6	30.1	0.3	0.8
APPAREL AND OTHER TEXTILE PRODS.		82.6	82.4	89.1	0.2	-6.5
PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		40.6	40.9	40.7	-0.3	-0.1
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING		81.5	81.8	79.9	-0.3	1.6
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		60.1	60.0	57.8	0.1	2.3
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS		9.7	10.0	10.1	-0.3	-0.4
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS		41.8	41.5	39.0	0.3	2.8
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS		10.4	10.2	9.9	0.2	0.5
---NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	3,898.6	3,861.8	3,860.1	3,749.3	1.7	112.5
MINING	30.0	29.0	29.4	30.5	-0.4	-1.5
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	206.9	197.3	201.6	186.6	-4.3	10.7
TRANSPORTATION	139.2	137.6	138.8	137.6	-1.2	0.0
PUBLIC UTILITIES	105.0	104.9	104.7	103.0	0.2	1.9
COMMUNICATIONS		49.7	49.6	49.1	0.1	0.6
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY		55.2	55.1	53.9	0.1	1.3
WHOLESALE TRADE	266.6	265.3	265.1	257.9	0.2	7.4
RETAIL TRADE	847.0	843.2	857.5	822.4	-14.3	20.8
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES		118.0	127.9	118.5	-9.9	-0.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	393.5	291.4	291.5	285.9	-0.1	5.5
BANKING		87.4	87.7	88.7	-0.3	-1.3
INSURANCE CARRIERS		87.0	86.6	83.4	0.4	3.6
SERVICES AND MISCELLANEOUS	1,311.1	1,298.4	1,285.9	1,237.2	12.5	61.2
BUSINESS SERVICES		225.2	223.5	208.1	1.7	17.1
HEALTH SERVICES		424.7	424.3	409.9	0.4	14.8
--HOSPITALS		234.2	234.0	227.5	0.2	6.7
LEGAL SERVICES		37.2	37.2	34.6	0.0	2.6
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES		158.7	150.9	[illegible]	7.8	7.2
SOCIAL SERVICES		84.0	83.2	81.6	0.8	2.4
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES		62.9	62.5	57.4	0.4	5.5
GOVERNMENT	700.3	694.7	685.6	688.2	9.1	6.5
FEDERAL	143.8	142.6	142.6	138.4	0.0	4.2
STATE		147.2	145.7	151.8	1.5	-4.6
LOCAL		404.9	397.3	398.0	7.6	6.9
---PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	2.2	2.7	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.4

AP/= Advanced preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/= Preliminary data.

FEBRUARY DEPARTS FROM NORMAL LATE WINTER PATTERNS

The number of jobs supplied by Pennsylvania business establishments rose slightly during February in a departure from normal late winter patterns. Typically, Commonwealth payrolls decline during this period, the result of major seasonal cutbacks in contract construction and retail trade. Recent preliminary figures, based on a survey of businesses, indicate similar trade and construction job losses this February; however, other nonmamufacturing sectors out-paced their normal job performance with the net result of a rise in total nonagricultural wage and salary employment.

Total jobs throughout Pennsylvania moved to 4,908,600 in February, inching upward by 300 since January while maintaining a significant 132,800 job rise over the year. Manufacturing payrolls declined by 2,300 to register only the third monthly downturn in the past twelve months. Durable goods industries accounted for nearly nine of every ten manufacturing jobs lost with a lackluster performance to the tune of a 2,000 job slide. Losses were widespread rather than deep in any one industry and occurred predominantly within primary metals (-600); furniture and fixtures (-400); electrical equipment (-400); transportation equipment (-400); stone, clay and glass (-300) and lumber (-200). Nondurables, at 449,800 in February, also fared poorly losing 300 jobs at a time when payrolls typically expand. Here, losses in food products (-500), paper products (-300), printing and publishing (-300) and petroleum/coal products (-300) were somewhat significant and could not be completely countered elsewhere.

Nonmanufacturing job volumes, normally on a slight downswing in February, shook the winter doldrums early this year posting a net gain of 1,700 to record 3,861,800 jobs. Last year at this time, Commonwealth nonmanufacturing jobs amounted to 3,749,300. Responsibility for the large upswing rested solely on one industry division - services. This industry, which involves establishments engaged in providing a variety of assistance to individuals, business and government, soared upward by 12,500 to achieve a February job count of 1,298,400. February gains within services were broadbased, occurring across all lines except recreation services, due to rally in the spring and summer, and legal services, which remained static at 37,200. The importance of this single division to Pennsylvania's overall economy is emphasized by the fact that its current job total accounts for over one-third of all nonmanufacturing jobs statewide.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

TABLE 5
PENNSYLVANIA HOURS AND EARNINGS
OF MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

INDUSTRY TITLE	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	FEB 1988 P\	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	FEB 1988 P\	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	FEB 1988 P\	JAN 1988	FEB 1987
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	414.12	415.95	398.52	40.8	40.9	40.5	10.15	10.17	9.84
DURABLE GOODS	455.03	455.70	437.18	41.9	42.0	41.4	10.96	10.85	10.56
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	339.10	342.91	348.61	39.8	40.2	41.8	8.52	8.53	8.34
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	346.33	346.04	347.73	39.4	39.1	40.2	8.79	8.85	8.65
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODS.	439.74	436.53	428.26	42.0	41.9	41.7	10.47	10.49	10.27
PRIMARY METALS	561.88	541.02	511.26	44.0	42.6	41.6	12.77	12.70	12.29
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	443.52	449.63	437.84	42.2	42.7	42.1	10.51	10.53	10.40
NONELECTRICAL MACHINERY	482.17	478.84	451.44	43.4	43.1	41.8	11.11	11.11	10.80
ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH.	411.05	425.88	405.37	40.9	42.0	40.7	10.05	10.14	9.96
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	512.95	521.94	472.36	41.4	42.4	40.1	12.39	12.31	11.78
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PROD.	416.57	422.91	420.24	40.8	41.3	40.8	10.21	10.24	10.30
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	367.47	355.42	407.96	38.6	37.1	43.4	9.52	9.58	9.40
NONDURABLE GOODS	361.69	364.98	352.34	39.4	39.5	39.5	9.18	9.24	8.92
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	401.58	404.78	386.40	40.4	40.6	40.0	9.94	9.97	9.66
TOBACCO PRODUCTS	236.07	240.77	248.86	38.7	39.6	40.4	6.10	6.08	6.16
TEXTILE PRODUCTS	272.12	276.19	276.31	37.9	38.2	39.7	7.18	7.23	6.96
APPAREL AND RELATED PRODUCTS	218.86	216.11	209.21	35.3	34.8	35.4	6.20	6.21	5.91
PAPER PRODUCTS	465.89	471.73	458.67	43.5	43.8	43.6	10.71	10.77	10.52
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	430.35	431.94	419.89	39.7	39.7	39.5	10.84	10.88	10.63
CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	501.54	422.37	499.7	41.9	43.1	42.6	11.97	12.12	11.73
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	597.25	588.14	613.01	42.6	42.1	43.2	14.02	13.97	14.19
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	374.11	376.74	375.28	41.8	42.0	42.5	8.95	8.97	8.83
LEATHER PRODUCTS	222.97	224.03	217.80	37.1	37.4	36.3	6.01	5.99	6.00
NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES									
COMMUNICATIONS	527.08	525.60	532.00	39.9	39.4	40.0	13.21	13.34	13.30
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY	653.17	660.33	629.63	43.0	43.3	42.6	15.19	15.25	14.78
ELECTRIC SERVICES	635.35	624.35	606.90	42.9	42.3	42.5	14.81	14.76	14.28
GAS PRODUCTION & DIST.	542.60	555.03	526.84	41.2	41.7	40.9	13.17	13.31	12.93
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	166.24	164.21	171.88	26.9	26.4	27.5	6.18	6.22	6.25

P\ = Preliminary data.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Slight declines in hourly earnings and the average workweek caused the Commonwealth's manufacturing production workers to average $1.83 less in their February paychecks. Average weekly earnings in manufactruing for February amounted to $414.12 with weekly hours down by 0.1 hour to 40.8 and an hourly rate of $10.15, off two cents since January. Last year at this time, production workers averaged $398.52 per week worked a 40.5 hour workweek and were paid at the rate of $9.84 per hour.

Preliminary figures for specific manufacturing industries reveal a 44.0 hour February workweek in primary metals, highest among all industries presented. Paper products, at 43.5 hours, and nonelectrical machinery, at a 43.4 hour workweek, also remained strong in this key economic statistic. Highest hourly earnings were posted in petroleum and coal products at a $14.02 average in February while primary metals and transportation equipment followed with rates of $12.77 and $12.39, respectively.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REGULAR PROGRAM
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	FEB 1988	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	NET CHANGE FROM JAN 88	NET CHANGE FROM FEB 87
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	88,638	143,595	91,710	-54,957	-3,072
Weeks Claimed					
--Total	711,379	670,367	754,340	41,012	-42,961
--Average Weekly	169,376	159,611	171,441	9,765	-2,065
Insured					
Unemployed Rate	3.7%	3.5%	4.2%	0.2	-0.5
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	49,496	68,437	49,611	-18,941	-115
Final Payments	6,647	7,926	11,541	-1,279	-4,894
Weeks Paid	625,989	564,425	702,129	61,564	-76,140
Net Benefit Amt	$95,012,446	$84,803,799	$102,795,302	$10,208,648	-$7,782,856
Avg Check Amt	$151.78	$150.25	$146.41	$1.53	$5.37

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS DECLINE

The number of initial claims filed for unemployment benefits recorded a strong seasonal decline in February, dropping by nearly 55,000 to a level of 88,638, while marking the low point for any February since 1973. Last year at this time, claims totaled 91,710.

Total weeks claimed rose to approximately 711,000 in February, up 41,012 over the month but remaining 42,961 below the year-ago count. Once again, the current tally is lowest February since 1973.

Payment activity revealed February weeks paid reached 625,989 with a net benefit amount of $95 million while the average check amounted to $151.78.

Data pertaining to Pennsylvania's unemployment compensation trust fund show cash reserves of $669 million ... federal loans amounting to $568 million ... a net reserve of nearly $101 million.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND - February 1988 Activity

Income - $140,125,419 Disbursements - $95,010,363

Cash Reserves $669,356,309
Federal Loans $568,440,744

Net Reserves $100,915,565

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Research and Statistics Division of the Pennsylvania Office of Employment Security, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1972, amended 1977) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by number of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by the latest 12 month average covered employment for which data is available.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employe contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Administration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

Balance - Amount of funds available in the state's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund to pay unemployment compensation benefits.

Federal Loans - Balance of unemployment compensation loans owed by Pennsylvania to the federal government.

Net Reserves - Amount of funds available in the state's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits minus the balance of federal loans.